

# How to become certified?



In order to be certified as a Level II assistant you must:

- Be a graduate of an approved dental assisting program
- Successfully complete all National Dental Assisting Examining Board (NDAEB) examination requirements
- Be an ODAA member in good standing
- Commit to our Code of Ethics
- Commit to maintaining your certification annually by paying your annual dues and submitting proof of continuing education credits

Members must earn 15 continuing education credits per year in order to keep their status as a certified dental assistant. There are many ways to maintain your certification status. Attending dental-related meetings, continuing education courses, or any other dental-related function such as participation in a Dental Health Community Program are just a few. Visit [www.oda.org](http://www.oda.org) for a complete list.

The fee for certification is \$75.



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# Why become a certified dental assistant?



# You're about to begin an exciting career in dental assisting

Soon you will be graduating from your dental assisting program to start your new career. This is an ideal time to think about becoming certified by the ODAA (Ontario Dental Assistants Association).

Certification demonstrates pride in your work and commitment to your career. Attaining certification will also help you find employment in an office that values you as part of the team and places great importance on the well-being of its patients.



## ODAA. Working on behalf of dental assistants for 75 years

The ODAA was incorporated in 1934, and has been the certifying body for dental assistants in Ontario since 1961. In addition to wage negotiation support, professional advice, leadership and certification, nearly 8,000 ODAA members receive:

- Membership at the national level with the CDA
- Networking opportunities
- On-going education, including home studies
- Local affiliate meetings and province-wide seminars and conferences
- Access to job listings across the province
- Exclusive publication of "The Journal" three times a year
- Discounts on CAA and GoodLife Fitness Club memberships, eyewear, car rentals and hotels, plus reduced rates on disability and out-of-the-country travel insurance, and group rates on home and auto insurance
- A \$15,000 life insurance policy

## Your profession is about to get better – regulation is near!

To further support dental assistants as respected healthcare professionals, the ODAA is currently working with the Ontario government to have dental assisting become a regulated health profession.

Regulation will mean that:

- All dental assistants require formal training and certification
- Dental assistants will be publicly recognized and respected
- Your scope of practice and employment opportunities will expand
- You will be able to continue your career in other provinces more easily
- Dentists can no longer employ laypersons as dental assistants to be trained on the job
- Dental patients can rest assured they are receiving the finest care from highly trained and qualified staff

Becoming a certified dental assistant now will mean that your training and level of commitment is recognized under the new regulated standards, and will ensure a seamless transition.

### Find out more

Show pride in your profession and strengthen your career by becoming ODAA-certified today. For more information, visit [www.oodaa.org](http://www.oodaa.org) or call 1-800-461-4348.